

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A ligating apparatus comprising:

an introducing tube which ~~can be~~ is inserted in a living body cavity;

a manipulating wire inserted through the introducing tube in such a manner that the manipulating wire is movable in advancing and retreating directions ~~can freely advance or retreat~~;

a clip having a base end and a ~~holding portion formed in an arm portion~~ at least two arm portions extending from the base end~~[[;]]~~ in the advancing direction, each of the arm portions having a holding portion apart from the base end, and the base end having a through hole which is ~~extended in the advancing direction formed in the base end of said clip and~~ through which said manipulating wire can be is inserted, the manipulating wire including a tip end which is positioned between the arm portions when the manipulation wire is inserted through the base end of the clip; and

an engaging portion formed at a bulged portion which is disposed in a the tip end of the manipulating wire inserted through said through hole and which has a diameter larger than a diameter of said hole and engaged with the base end;

wherein at least one of the base end and engaging portion is deformed when the manipulating wire is moved in the retreating direction against the base end of the clip, so that the engaging portion is disengaged with the base end whereby the tip end of the manipulating wire is removed from the base end.

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17. (Currently Amended) A ~~mechanism~~ ligating apparatus according to claim 16, ~~wherein~~ further comprising a clip tightening ring attached to the arm ~~portion~~ portions of said clip to close the holding ~~portion~~ portions of the clip; and a manipulating member for the clip tightening ring, inserted through the introducing tube disposed behind the clip tightening ring in such a manner that the manipulating member can freely advance or retreat.

18. (Currently Amended) A ~~mechanism~~ ligating apparatus according to claim 16, ~~wherein~~ further comprising a clip tightening ring attached to the arm ~~portion~~ portions of said clip to close the holding ~~portion~~ portions of the clip; the clip and clip tightening ring being inserted in the introducing tube so as to be projected from the tip portion of the introducing tube;

abutting members engaging means, respectively disposed in at least one of on an end portion of the introducing tube and the clip tightening ring, for prohibiting the clip tightening ring projected from the tip portion of the introducing tube, from being contained again in into the introducing tube, when the clip and the clip tightening ring are moved in the retracting direction project forwards from the introducing tube; and

a manipulating member inserted through the introducing tube disposed behind the clip tightening ring in such a manner that the manipulating member can freely advance to move the clip tightening ring or retreat.

19. (Currently Amended) A ~~mechanism~~ ligating apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the tip end of said manipulating wire is crushed in a flat shape, to form the engaging portion including [[and]] a bulged portion is formed.

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~mechanism~~ ligating apparatus according to claim 16, wherein a pipe-shaped member is attached to the tip end of said manipulating wire, and a bulged portion is formed.

21. (Currently Amended) A ligating apparatus comprising:
an introducing tube which can be inserted in a living body cavity;
a manipulating wire inserted through the introducing tube in such a manner that the manipulating wire can freely advance or retreat; and
at least two clips each of which has a base end, a plurality of arm portions extending from the base end and a holding ~~portion~~ portions formed ~~in an~~ on the arm ~~portion~~ portions ~~extending apart~~ from the base end, wherein two or more clips are arranged in series, ~~a hole~~ holes through which said manipulating wire can be inserted ~~[[is]]~~ are formed ~~[[in]]~~ through the base end ~~of each clip~~ ends of respective clips, and a ~~bulged stopper~~ portion larger than the hole is disposed in ~~[[the]]~~ a tip end of the manipulating wire inserted through the hole in the base end of the clip.

22. (Currently Amended) A ~~mechanism~~ ligating apparatus according to claim 21, wherein a clip tightening ring attached to the arm ~~portion~~ portions of said clip to close the holding ~~portion~~ portions of the clip; and a manipulating member inserted through the introducing tube disposed behind the clip tightening ring disposed in a closest position in such a manner that the manipulating member can freely advance or retreat.

23. (Currently Amended) A ~~mechanism~~ ligating apparatus according to claim 21, wherein a clip tightening ring attached to the arm ~~portion~~ portions of said clip to close the

holding ~~portion~~ portions of the clip; the clip and clip tightening ring being inserted in the
introducing tubes so as to be projected from the tip portion of the introducing tube;

abutting members respectively, ~~engaging means,~~ disposed ~~in at least one of~~ on
an end portion of the introducing tube and the clip tightening ring, for prohibiting the clip
tightening ring projected from the tip portion of the introducing tube, from being ~~contained~~
~~again in~~ into the introducing tube, when the clip and the clip tightening ring are moved in the
retracting direction project forwards from the introducing tube; and a manipulating member
inserted through the introducing tube disposed behind the clip tightening ring disposed in the
closest position in such a manner that the manipulating member can freely advance or retreat.

24. (Currently Amended) A ~~mechanism~~ ligating apparatus according to claim
21, wherein the tip end of said manipulating wire is crushed in a flat shape, to form the
engaging portion including [[and]] a bulged portion is formed.

25. (Currently Amended) A ~~mechanism~~ ligating apparatus according to claim
21, wherein a pipe-shaped member is attached to the tip end of said manipulating wire, and a
bulged portion is formed.

26-34. (Cancelled)

35. (New) A ligating apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the through
hole of the base end has a diameter smaller than that of the engaging portion.

36. (New) A ligating apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the through
hole of the base end is deformed to increase the diameter thereof, when the manipulating wire
is moved in the retreating direction against the base end of the clip.

37. (New) A ligating apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the engaging portion of the manipulating wire is deformed to decrease the diameter thereof, when the manipulating wire is moved in the retreating direction against the base end of the clip.